(c) and (d) People are not driven out of protected areas. Relocation of villages is undertaken in national parks and sanctuaries as per- requirement in mutual agreement with the local people. In the last 3 years relocation of villages has been done from Pench National Park of Madhya Pradesh and Pakhui sanctuary of Arunachal Pradesh. Relocation of villages is under progress in the Bandipur Tiger Reserve (Karnataka), Blue Mountain National Park (Mizoram), and Gorumara National Park (West Bengal).

Establishment of Snake Parks

4535. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will, the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to encouraga State Governments to e'stablish snake parks and centres for venom ex-trajtion;

(b) whether this idea has been discussed with various State Governments;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the details of assbtance to be given to States to establish snake parks and involve the tribals, traditionally involved in this profession?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND) FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): ((a) No, Sir.

(b) According to available information, the existing institutions are adequate to meet the requirement for production of anti-Snake venom serum and therefore this idea has not been discussed with various State Governments.

(c) No such proposal has been received from the Govt, of Andhra Pradesh.

(d) No assistance is proposed to be given to states to establish snake parks and involve tribals in this profession.

Purification of Himalayan rivers in Uttar Pradesh

4536. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that millions of pilgrims and tourist's visit Badrinath, Kedjatlnath, Hemikund Saheb, Yanvunotri Gangotri and other places in U.P. Himalayas, if so, what is the estimated number of such visitors;

(b) whether Goverimient are aware that due to inadequate hygienic facilities, the river system of Ganga and Yamuna is polluted by the seasonal influx of population;

(c) whether Government have made any arrangement to monitor the cleanliness of Ganga, Yamuna and the tribu-taiy rivers upstream from Rishikesh; if not, whether such arrangements will be made during summer months in 1995;

(d) whether Government are alsa aware that the sewer system of all the large towns in the dight districts of U.P. Himalayas are discharged into the rivers without any treatment; if so, what are the details and what action is taken in this regard; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take or have taken to safeguard the purity of water of the U.P, Hunalayan river system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): ((a) Yes, Sir. The approximate number of

visitors to Badrinatii, Kedarnath, Hein-kund Saheb, Gangotri and Yamunotri in the year 1994 is 6.19 lakhs.

(b) The pollution of rivers due to visit of tourists and pilgrims to the above mentioned places is of temporary nature. At various place's, urinals and communi'ty toilets have been provided by the State Government for keeping the area clean and maintaining hygienio conditions.

(c) to (e) Water quality monitoring up-stream of Rishikesh is not being donq and is neither contemplated during the summer months of 1995. The water quality of river Ganga and Yamuna in their upper reaches including tributaries, did not warrant pollution abatement works in those sretci'itels. Accordingly, the Ilnd phase of Ganga Action Plan, including Yamuna component, envisiagss tackling stretches below Rishikesh and Yamuna nagar—Jagadhari respectively. Also, no proposals were received from the State Government for the upper stretches.

In the tow'ships of hill districts of U.P. wherever the Isewer system has been laid no sewage treatment plants have been installed as yet.

Letters of MPs to the Ministry of Environmant and Forest

4537. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleated to state:

(a) what is the number and details of letters written by the members of Parlia ment to the Ministry during the period from Ist April, 1994 to 31st March, 1995;

(b) what is the number of letters ack-nowledged out of them;

(c) what is the number of letters in respect *of* which final replies were sent; and

(d) what is the break-up of final letteils issued Ijf the Ministry, containing positive and negative replies, respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): ((a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Afforestation funds from mine owners and industrialists

4538. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is asking the mine owners/industrialists in the country to deposit adequate funds for afforestation purpose;

(b) if so, the amount received by Gov-ernment and spent on this account 'iU date, State-wise, during the last year;

(c) whether the funds were not utilised by State Governments for the aforesaid purpose. if so, the reasons therefor indicating for which purposes other than affortstation the money was spent, State-wise, out of this sanctioned/allocated funds,; and

(d) whether Government have kept State-wise records of expenditure for the purposes of fuel, mining activities, construction of Dam, irrigation and generation of powers, etc. out of the total funds allocated for the country as a whole and deposited by other agencies during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND Forests SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Out of the stipulated amount of Rs. 25,686 lakh an amount of Rs. 18,394 lakh have been realised from user agencies for comipensatory afforestation. Out of this Rs. 9300 lakh has-been spent and an area of 2.206 lakh has been afforested against the target of 3.85 lakh has till December, 1994. The main reason for non-utilisation of funds in past is the financial procedure of deposits and drawal of funds as forestry receipts are still considered as revenue by the States. State-wise details